GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20004

JOSEPH P. YELDELL
DIRECTOR

REPLY TO:
1350 E STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20004

JAN 31 1975

The Honorable Julius W. Hobson, Sr.
City Council
District Building
14th and E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20004

Dear Mr. Hobson:

"Don't Give Plaque a Ghost of a Chance, Brush and Floss Daily" is the theme selected by the American Dental Association for its annual observance of National Children's Dental Health Week, February 2-8, 1975.

The Department of Human Resources, Community Health and Hospitals Administration, Dental Services, in conjunction with the District of Columbia Public Schools and Webb Elementary School staff and students request the honor of your presence at the "Brush In."

Date : February 5, 1975

Time : 10:00 A.M.

Place: Webb Elementary School
1375 Mt. Olivet Road, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

Sincerely,

Joseph P. Yeldell

Joseph P. Yeldell
Director

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HOSPITALS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20001

The Honorable Julius W. Hobson, Sr.
City Council
District Building
14th and E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

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February 21, 1975

Dear Mr. Young:

Honorable Andrew Young
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 26, 1975

Mr. Francis Zankowski, Editor
The Eagle
300 Mary Gradon Center
American University
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Mr. Zankowski:

Thought you would be interested.

Julius W. Hobson

Enclosure

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20004

April 28, 1975

Honorable Russell E. Train
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Room 1200 - West Tower
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Mr. Train:

Enclosed is a copy of the Draft Resource Recovery Engineering and Economic Feasibility Study which the National Center for Resource Recovery, Inc. (NCRR) submitted to the Metropolitan Washington Waste Management Agency in January 1975.

The FY 1976 Budget for Washington, D.C. calls for $9.6 million to be allocated for the construction and design of a resource recovery facility, located at Lorton, Virginia, described in the NCRR's feasibility study.

Due to the time constraints placed on the newly elected City Council of the District of Columbia in its budgetary deliberations, there was very little time to consider the full issue carefully. A number of questions were raised concerning the proposed resource facility including:

- Is the system presented in the NCRR's feasibility study the most up-to-date in terms of the technology now available? In the three years since the District requested proposals to study resource systems, the technology has blossomed.

- The resource recovery system presented in the NCRR feasibility study appears to be the type being built for the city of New Orleans which has proven economically incompatible with returnable beverage container legislation. Would the same limitation apply to the NCRR proposal for the District?

- What other types of resource recovery facilities presently being marketed are compatible with beverage container legislation and would be more cost effective?

Accordingly the City Council in its approval of the $9.6 million for the resource recovery facility amended the Mayor's request to provide that the Executive (through the Department of Environmental Services) work with the City Council to examine other resource recovery systems. The amendment further stated that the Mayor was not to proceed with the project for 90 days in order to allow both the Council and the Executive to confer with the Federal Energy Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency on new resource recovery systems being developed.

As a member of the City Council and the Transportation and Environmental Affairs Committee, I am requesting that your agency review the resource recovery system presently being proposed and provide technical assistance in reviewing all the resource recovery systems being marketed or built today and recommend the most cost-effective system that is totally compatible with beverage container legislation.

Other specific issues which I would also like your agency to address are:

- Whether the District of Columbia should place more emphasis on energy recovery in view of the critical shortages in this area; and

- Whether a decentralized system in which a number of separate resource recovery facilities process 650 tons of solid waste per day is the most cost-effective.

It is my understanding that EPA's position is one which advocates both source reduction and resource recovery. We want a system that takes into account all aspects of solid waste management, one which is totally compatible with source reduction.

I would welcome EPA's technical assistance in this matter and would appreciate your designating a specialist in the area of solid waste systems to work closely with us.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson

Julius W. Hobson
Councilmember

Copies to:

Rev. Jerry A. Moore, Jr.
Chairperson, Transportation & Environmental Affairs Committee

William McKinney, Director, Department of Environmental Affairs

Enclosures:

1. NCRR Draft Resource Recovery Engineering and Economic Feasibility Study
2. Description of project from the Mayor's FY 1976 Capital Budget Justification.

May 2, 1975

Mr. Matthew Watson
Auditor
Office of the District of Columbia Auditor
Room 936 - The Munsey Building
1329 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Watson:

Because of citizen concern I want to make sure that there are no irregularities with the initial contractual arrangements concerning the National Center for Resource Recovery's contract to develop a resource recovery system prior to the elected City Council's term in office.

A number of issues and questions have arisen concerning the initial contract signed by the National Center for Resource Recovery, Inc. (NCRR) in 1974. Specifically:

- Was the initial request for a design for a solid waste system proposal competitive? Who submitted proposals and on what basis?

- Was NCRR permitted to review the proposals for a resource recovery system? If so, was this ethical?

- Did the District of Columbia provide for open bidding in the development of a resource recovery system as other communities have done? If this was not the case, why?

- Were resource recovery systems other than a 650 ton per day type, which was contracted as a sole source by NCRR, considered?

I am requesting that your office initiate an audit of the procedures used in awarding the contract to the NCRR to develop a resources recovery system to be built at Lorton, Virginia. It is important to assure citizens that the initial request for proposal was both ethical and legal.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilmember

Copies to:

All Councilmembers

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20004

May 2, 1975

The Honorable Frank G. Zarb
Administrator
Federal Energy Administration
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Zarb:

Enclosed is a copy of the Draft Resource Recovery Engineering and Economic Feasibility Study which the National Center for Resource Recovery, Inc. (NCRR) submitted to the Metropolitan Washington Waste Management Agency in January 1975.

The FY 1976 Budget for Washington, D.C. calls for $9.6 million to be allocated for the construction and design of a resource recovery facility, located at Lorton, Virginia, described in the NCRR's feasibility study.

Due to the time constraints placed on the newly elected City Council of the District of Columbia in its budgetary deliberations, there was very little time to consider the full issue carefully. A number of questions were raised concerning the proposed resource recovery facility including:

- Is the system presented in the NCRR's feasibility study the most up-to-date in terms of the energy recovery technology now available? In the three years since the District requested proposals to study resource recovery systems, the technology has blossomed.

- The resource recovery system presented in the NCRR feasibility study appears to be the type being built for the city of New Orleans which has proven economically incompatible with returnable beverage container legislation. Does the returnable beverage container legislation save energy?

- What other types of resource recovery facilities presently being marketed are compatible with beverage container legislation and would be more cost effective?

Accordingly the City Council in its approval of the $9.6 million for the resource recovery facility amended the Mayor's request to provide that the Executive (through the Department of Environmental Services) work with the City Council to examine other resource recovery systems. The amendment further stated that the Mayor was not to proceed with the project for 90 days in order to allow both the Council and the Executive to confer with the Federal Energy Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency on new resource recovery systems being developed.

As a member of the City Council and the Transportation and Environmental Affairs Committee, I am requesting that your agency review the resource recovery system presently being proposed and provide technical assistance in reviewing all the energy resource recovery systems being marketed or built today and recommend the most cost-effective system that is totally compatible with beverage container legislation.

Specifically I would like your agency to address the issue of whether the District of Columbia should place more emphasis on energy recovery in view of the critical shortages in this area. According to Mr. Roger W. Sant, the Assistant Administrator for the Energy Conservation section of the FEA, in his testimony made before the House Subcommittee on Transportation and Commerce on April 15, 1975, the refuse derived fuel portion of a plant recovering both energy and materials provides up to two-thirds of its revenue. He also indicated that as much as 90 percent of the energy saved is associated with the fuel fraction. We feel that perhaps the District should stress energy recovery in its solid waste management program.

It is my understanding that the FEA is participating with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in a study examining the feasibility of adapting one or more of the TVA's steam plants to accept prepared refuse as a supplemental fuel. Should the Tennessee Valley Authority, the largest steam utility in the country, adopt this practice, it would encourage other large utilities to follow. We feel that the results of this study could have a profound effect on the direction the District should take in managing its solid waste.

We want a system that takes into account all aspects of solid waste management, one which is totally compatible with source reduction.

I would welcome FEA's technical assistance in this matter and would appreciate your designating a specialist in the area of solid waste systems to work closely with us in exploring the potentials for energy recovery.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilmember at large

Copies to:

Rev. Jerry A. Moore, Jr, Chairperson,
Transportation and Enivornmental Affairs Committee

William McKinney, Director
Department of Environmental Services of the District of Columbia

Enclosures:

NCRR Draft Resource Recovery Engineering and Economic Feasibility Study

Description of project from the Mayor's FY 1976 Capital Budget Justification

6.) Memo from Ann Wallen re: Helen Fierce

July 31 1975

1.) City Wide Struggle

2.) Consumer Information Bulletin

3.) Washington Teachers Union Brochure

4.) Press Release regarding Council Women on WRC 8/2

5.) Copy of Letter sent to Councilmembers regarding Flooded area of S.E.

6.) Bulletin Board for Better Public Education

7.) Memo to CC members from CNCCC re Peoples Hearing held 7/29/75.

8.) Letters from employees of WTI, Robert Altis & McMillan - "Employment Practices"

9.) Copy of petition "Sales tax D.C."

July 21, 1975

1. Comments from Judge John Fauntleroy - regarding legalizing marjiuana
2. Comments from Police Department - Traffic School
3. Metro Minutes
4. Report and Work Program from Downtown Progress
5. Memo to: Community Groups and Individuals from Charles Conrad regarding Commission meeting July 31, 1975.
6. Letter from Jude Heimel regarding copy of letter sent to Stephen Gambara
7. Letter from Sidney Brooks and a petition from postal employees regarding parking at Main Post Office Building.
8. WMATA Minutes
9. Invitation to Washington Urban League Street Academy graduation.
10. Letter from Florence McCrunch regarding teachers' retirement.
11. Hispanic American Heritage Committee - Dinner 7/24/75
12. "Center Line" brochure
13. WRC TV Editorial: "Rent Control"
14. Letter from Glenn Watts regarding United Way
15. Copy of letter to Tom Jones from David Clarke
16. Copy of letter to Shackleton from Jonn Simms regarding Nurtitional program for ederly.
17. Copy of letter to Tucker from Diana Josephson regarding Shari Kherasch Board of Elections.
18. News Release - D.C. Dept. Finance and Revenue "personal property tax"
19. News Release from Mayor - outstanding teenager of the year
20. News Release from Shackleton - condomium conversion survey results
21. Letter from Clifton Gruver, M.D. - regarding tax and revenue act of 1975.
22. Memo to Councilmember, from Florence Roison regarding emergency rent control legislation.
23. Copy of letter to Nadine Winter from Roderick Boggs

July 22, 1975

1. Telegram from Herlis Tillman regarding Funeral Director's profession.
2. Letter from Jean Farrow - regarding Wilmington 10
3. Telegram from Leroy Harrod, regarding Funeral Directors liscense.

7-7-75

1. Letter from Gay Acticities Alliance
2. Post Card from Charlotte Fox, Eleanora Sieshell and E.M. Schweble supporting voter registrations.
3. Audio Tape of Absolom Jordon and invitation to appear on TV series
4. WMA Transit Authority Minutes
5. Survey of Activities from Committee on District of Columbia (Charles Diggs)
6. Pipeline
7. Mailgram-Hilda James Re: support for voter registration
8. Letter from Jimmy D. Harless-John Wilson's bill on Registeration of Firearms
9. Press Release-Washington Urban League
10. Copy of letter sent to Councilmember Moore regarding voting on Morris to testify at hearing July 2, 1975 (Virginia Morris)
11. ~~Copy of letter sent to Councilmember Moore~~
11. Response from Jose Thomas-Son at D.C. Schools
12. Written testimony from Roy Watlington Re: Hearing 7/2/75
13. Notice of Public Hearing "Property Tax Hearings"
14. Notice of Public Hearing "Confrontation of the Mayoral Nominations to District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics

~~15.~~

July 8, 1975

1. Letter from David Anderson regarding his firm representing the Council.
2. Copy of letter to Comer Copie, regarding reprogramming, Bell, Phelps, Eastern, Coolidge and Western.
3. Post Card from Ms. Queen and Richard Shivas supporting voter registration.
4. Memo to D.P. O'Donnell from Wilmer Davis-regarding safety improvements.
5. Statement from John Gunther, Chairman, Board of Directors, D.C. Development Land Agency.
6. Monitor Bulletin

July 9, 1975

~~1.~~

July 10, 1975

1. Letter sent to Clarke regarding Yeldell's Budget Cut.
2. Memo to Councilmembers from Nadine Winter regarding proposal to change to rental Accomodations Act of 1975.
3. Letter from Robert Baquerizo to Hobson regarding Spanish Speaking People.
4. Letter from Harriet Taylor and James Dyke, regarding Greater Washington Americans for Democratic Action.
5. Consumer Information Bulletin
6. Birch Log
7. Letter from Edward Gattbilt regarding evaluation of Sizemore.

July 11, 1975

1. Announcement from Community Legal Assistance and Street Law
   (Lawyers to work with council on part time basis)
2. News Release-Moore, Hobson and Coates, "Rent Control"
3. Editorial regarding Teacher Situation in D.C. Schools
4. Copy of letter from Victor Lawson to Dr. Nickelpin
5. Letter from Catherine Mayo regarding Bill 1-115
6.

July 14, 1975

1. Invitation to reception honoring Arthur Ashe from Andrew Young
2. Mailgram from William Simon regarding postponing University Bill
3. Memo from Shackleton regarding Mayor's Veto Act 1-7
4. Letter from Barbara Sizemore regarding unequal pay for male and female employees

July 15, 1975

July 16, 1975

1. Report from Mayor on Audits undertaken by GAO
2. Memo from Shackleton to Judidth Rogers regarding drafting ordinance regulating massage parlors.
3. District of Columbia Register
4. Calendar for July 21-29

July 17, 1975

1. ISAC Minutes
2. Information Bulletin from Urban League
3. Legislation Agenda Markup
4. Clarke Statement on Marijuana Bill
5. Proposal for a Council Committee on Rules - Tucker
6. Memo to C. Members for Transportation and Environmental Affairs Committee regarding PR 1-56
7. Copy of letter to Carl McIntyle regarding letter from D. Clarke
8. Memo to C. Members and staff regarding Summer Interns
9. Letter from William Robertson
10. News Release from Hardy "Male Chorus returning from tour"

July 18, 1975

1. Agenda from Bicenntenial Commission regarding Mayor and Mandel at DC Bicenntenial program.

July 21

1.) Comments from Judge John Faunteroy - regarding legalizing MMJ use

2.) Comments from Police Dept. - traffic school

3.) metro minutes

4.) Report & work program from Downtown Progress

5.) memo to: Community Groups + Individuals from - Charles Conrad
regarding commission meeting July 31, 1975.

6.) Letter from Jude Heimel regarding - copy of Teller sent to Stephen Cambers

7.) Letter from Sidney Brooks and a petition from postal employees, regarding parking at main post office Bldg.

8.) WMATA minutes

9.) Invitation to Washington Urban League Street Academy Graduation.

10.) Letter from Florence McCarver - re: teachers Retirement

11.) Hispanic American Heritage Committee - dinner 7/31/75

12.) Center Line"

13.) WRC - to Editorial - "Rent Control"

14.) Letter from Glenn Curtis regarding United Way -

15.) Copy of letter to Tom Jones from David Clarke

16.) Copy of letter to Shackleton from John Simms. re: garding
nutritional Program for Elderly.

(17.) Copy of letter to Eveline from Dr. Clara Jospheson regarding Ms. Shari Kharasch / Board of Elections

17) News Release - DC Dept. Finance & Revenue re Real Property Tax

18) News Release - from Magick - Outstanding Teenager of the year.

19) News Release from Shackleton - "Condominium Conversion Survey Results"

20) Letter from Clifton Cruser, M.D. - regarding Tax Revenue Act of 1975.

21) Memo to Councilmembers from Clarence Walton regarding emergency Rent Control legislation.

~~22) Letter from~~

22) Copy of letter to Nadine Winter from Barbara Bass regarding?

July 22, 1975

1.) Telegram from Hollis Tillman regarding Funeral Director's Profession

2.) Letter from Jean Farrow - regarding Wilmington 10

3.) Telegram from Leroy Harrod, regarding Funeral Directors Laceing.

July 23, 1975

1.) Letter from Robert Wilkinson, M.D. regarding

2.) Letter from Mary Munroe regarding Rent Control legislation

3) Letter from David Anderson, Atty. regarding legal assistance to Tenants

4.) Minutes of Board of Education Meeting
5.) Telegram from Hobson to Anton Wood
6.) Letter from Marion O. Greene, Jr. regarding Support of City for transcendental Corporation.
7.) Memo from Arrington Dixon regarding Ward 4 Advisory Neighborhood Commission.
8.) ~~Memo~~ News Release from ~~Dixon~~ - Coates.

July 24, 1975

1.) Letter from Ayuda, Inc. regarding Latino Community Service.
2.) Letter from Edward Krufky, M.D. regarding D.C. medical Society
3.) Letter from Connie Scott, sent to Coates, regarding Street services in Anacostia.
4.) Letter from Victoria Clay regarding hearing for Carrie Shorne.
5) Letter from John Nevins regarding D.C. Police commendation

July 25, 1975

1.) News Release
2.) Congressional Calendar
3.) Los Angeles Police Dept Public Disorder Intelligence Division Standards and procedures.
4.) Invitation to Boat Ride on Potomac sponsored by DC Mental Health Association.

5.) Letter from Roberto Bayuerisa (Sec Center) regarding Spanish Speaking people.

6.) Copy of letter sent to Mayor from Harvey Mellon Jr. Washington University

7.) Copy of letter sent to all Councilmembers regarding funeral directors + licensing.

8.) Copy of letter to Mayor regarding Revised Revenue Act of 1975.

July 27

1) News Release, from D.C. Youth Orchestra

2) News Release from Washington urban League Regarding Graduation Ceremonies.

3.) metropolitan memo

July 30, 1975

1.) Letter from Lewis Anthony to invite Hobson to Kick-off Campaign for Summer kids participating in Sports Championships.

2.) Letter from William Davis (UPO) invitation to luncheon for Senior citizens.

3.) Letter from Leonard Brown, JR. - request for District of Columbia Register.

4.) Pamphlet, "Guide to Community Involvement Programs.

5) Comments on proposed Bill -1-89

July 23, 1975

1. Letter from Robert Wilkinson, M.D.
2. Letter from Mary Monroe regarding gun control legislation
3. Letter from David Anderson attorney regarding legal assistance to council
4. Minutes

Bill 1-33

GIANT FOOD INC. BOX 1804 · WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013

JOSEPH B. DANZANSKY
PRESIDENT

August 8, 1975

Reverend James E. Coates, Chairman
Committee on Employment and Economic Development
Council of the District of Columbia
The District Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Reverend Coates:

I very much appreciate having had the opportunity to testify on proposed regulation 1-33, which would require price marking on each retail item. While I have already submitted testimony on this subject, I did remain throughout the hearings, and listened to the testimony of others, plus the questions and comments of the members of the Council. Several statements were made and questions were asked which made it plain that additional clarification was needed in some areas. In the following pages, I will attempt to address these concerns, and ask that they be made a part of the record of the hearings.

Sincerely yours,

JBD:jp

cc: John Wilson, Chairman
Committee on Employment & Economic Development
Council of the District of Columbia

GIANT FOOD COMMENTS ON 1-33

PRICE CONSCIOUSNESS

1. The removal of price marking from individual items will result in loss of price consciousness.

   We believe that our system of improved shelf markings and a detailed register receipt tape will improve price consciousness. In any event, at present, what will happen is sheer speculation. We are conducting a test to find out what the impact will be on price consciousness, and the industry as a whole is conducting a national survey through a prominent university. At the conclusion of these tests, the results will be made available to the public and to any legislative bodies with an interest in this subject.

2. Consumers will not be aware of price increases, and supermarkets will therefore be less apt to keep prices down.

   With the detailed register receipt tape, consumers will be better equipped to track the price of the items they buy, and, to check prices in one store against those in another store. Under our system, competition keeps companies on their toes, and no one wants to be known as a company with higher prices.

3. Shoppers should have all information necessary to enable them to make intelligent marketplace decisions.

   We agree. We would never consider removal of prices without providing equally good or better price information for consumers. We think we have done this. We're testing to find out whether we have.

SHELF PRICE LABELING SYSTEM

1. If a shelf price is inaccurate or missing, the shopper will be left with no price information whatsoever.

   Our new unit price label system is practically mistake proof. Missing, illegible or smeared price marking is far more frequent. In addition, the price of each item is flashed on a monitor screen at the time of checkout, and the customer gets an itemized detail tape.

2. Unit price labels are difficult for consumers to understand and use, especially in the District of Columbia.

   The implementation of a system without price marking on the particular item does not require a unit price label -- only a shelf label with the price of the product. Unit price labels contain two prices -- the price of the individual product, plus the price of the item measured in pounds, quarts, count, etc. Parenthetically, Giant Food has undertaken a program to educate inner city shoppers about the way to use unit pricing to save on food costs.

3. In the past, shelf price marking has been notoriously bad.

Strictly accurate shelf marking is essential in any store that does not mark individual prices on items. In our test store, where we must rely on shelf labels, we have established the necessary discipline to see that the system works. Thus far, we have had no complaints from consumers that our shelf marking has been inaccurate. To fairly judge whether shelf marking is adequate in such a program, the maintenance of shelf tags in a computer assisted checkout store should be observed. We invite the Council to check our Severna Park, Maryland store and see how we're doing.

EFFECT ON RETAIL PRICES

1. Has the computer assisted checkout system resulted in a decrease of prices or a stabilization of prices?

We only have had one test store in operation until July 30, 1975, and enough data has not been collected to ascertain the degree of savings under such a system. Since the store is the only one with scanning in operation in the mid-Atlantic states, it has been a "showplace," with a steady stream of VIP visitors. It has therefore been impossible for us to operate that store on a regular basis and to conduct measurements of our costs. Our test has just begun in earnest, and we expect to have definitive results early in 1976.

2. Have any savings been realized and passed on to consumers at the Severna Park store?

No, savings have not been passed on to consumers at Severna Park, because we have not yet ascertained the savings. When we do determine what the savings are, they will not be passed on in any particular store, since we maintain one price level at all Giant stores. Savings in one store, therefore, are very difficult to quantify chain-wide. The consumer will start to notice these savings when we have converted a larger number of stores.

CUSTOMER ACCEPTANCE OF PRICE REMOVAL

1. Has there been an increase in the number of shoppers using the system in Severna Park?

It is not possible to answer this question, since the Severna Park store was opened in a new location with computer assisted checkout from the first day of operation. It was therefore impossible to compare customer acceptance with acceptance under an old system. However, the store has met our projections and is doing well. All surveys conducted by the news media, by consumer groups, and universities (as well as our own) have shown that the overwhelming majority of people who have shopped at the store have no reservations about the system. They like it with or without prices.

2. How can the chains be so naive as to believe that the consumers would choose to have prices removed from the items that they are buying?

We asked them. 377 shoppers at the Severna Park store have written to us about the computer assisted check-out system. 300 like the system exactly as it is, and did not express a desire for price marking. 77 expressed a desire for price marking, but practically all said that it was "nice to have" but not essential. Only one or two percent expressed a strong desire for price marking. In addition, we surveyed 300 people through personal interviews, who had just completed their shopping at Severna Park. The results of this survey were approximately the same as the mail survey. We also had a large delegation of D. C. inner city shoppers visit our store, and they liked it. They voted to support our request that no legislation be enacted until our testing is completed. Most people are evidently willing to sacrifice price marking if it will result in some moderation in the price of food.

3. Isn't it a fact that the reaction of consumers to the fact that prices may be removed from individual items has been violent and aggressive?

No. Our customers like it. Some consumer activists (but not all) have been "violent and aggressive" in their opposition.

RECEIPT TAPES

1. Won't comparisons become a tedious process since consumers will have to save weekly tapes?

No - this will be far less tedious than having to check all items in the pantry, with no record of age of the product or assurance that the product sought hasn't already been consumed.

CONSUMER PARTICIPATION IN COMPUTER ASSISTED CHECKOUT

1. The Consumer Federation of America does not know of any consumer groups that were asked for their advice at any time.

As soon as Giant Food learned that it would be moving toward a computer assisted checkout system, it invited in a broad representation of consumer leaders, and they participated with us, step by step, in the development of our system. The issue of price marking was the only one in which serious differences resulted. Even on this issue, many of the consumer members of our Advisory Committee supported our tests.

COSTS OF COMPUTER ASSISTED CHECKOUT

1. Food prices are high enough without adding the cost of large capital outlays for equipment.

   Capital outlays for the computer assisted checkout system will not raise prices. The projected return on investment for this equipment is very high -- approximately 20% to 35%.

2. One wonders where they are getting this enormous amount of capital for this investment.

   Investment in the computer assisted checkout will be gradual. Money will come from debt and corporate retained earnings. We are a public company, and our books are open for inspection. We invite the City Council to do so.

3. The industry says that it costs $120,000 per store to convert to the electronic checkout system. Isn't the consumer footing this bill?

   No, the systems will be paid for out of the savings that result. This is what happens with any new piece of equipment. The computer assisted checkout is no exception.

IMPACT ON JOBS

1. How serious would job losses be when the computerized check-stands are fully effective?

   No one will be fired from their jobs, and the number of industry jobs will continue to grow. Our contract provides that no person will lose his job because of automation.

2. With the computerized check-stands, half the cashiers could disappear overnight.

   First, computer assisted checkouts will be installed gradually over an extended period of time because of the cost involved. Computer assisted checkouts will be installed as part of remodelings, as old equipment wears out and is written off. Second, it is unrealistic to state that half the cashiers could disappear overnight. This would mean that the system would result in productivity increases of 50%. Even the most optimistic projections for the new system are far less than 50%.

INTEGRITY OF THE SYSTEM

1. Isn't it conceivable that once you take an item off the shelf say at 39 cents, you could find that by the time you got to the checkout, the price had changed to 40 cents?

   No. All changes are made overnight. All price changes are made on the headquarters computer, and are transmitted to the store by telephone wire. (Store manager is permitted to reduce certain prices, such as day-old bread).

2. How can we be guaranteed that shelf prices will become accurate overnight?

   New shelf labels are printed when the changes are programmed into the computer, and are delivered to every store overnight. It is the manager's personal responsibility to see that the new shelf labels are put in place. He must so indicate into the computer before the new prices are released into the store system. We believe we have a reputation for integrity in the marketplace, and all evidence available to us indicates that our competition are concerned about their reputations. If nothing else, competition keeps us all honest.

SPECIAL PROBLEMS FOR SHOPPERS

1. Won't upper and lower shelves pose a problem for senior citizens, the handicapped, and others who may have difficulty bending and reaching and reading the unit price labels?

   It is harder to bend over or reach upward and pick up cans to read the price stamped on them than to read the shelf labels before attempting to pick up the products. The shelf labels are bold and easier to read than the price stamped on the can anyway.

2. The consumer would not be able to compare the price mark on an item in a cart with another item on a shelf.

   Our experience has demonstrated that consumers very rarely shop this way. Most comparisons are done within the same category on the same shelf. Consumers rarely place a can of peas in the cart and walk halfway across the store to look at the price of frozen peas, and then fresh peas. If consumers did this, there would be a great deal of backtracking to put items back where they belong, which we have not observed (consumers are usually in a hurry). Or, consumers would leave the unwanted items on the shelves near the item they picked up. This would mean that there would be a great amount of merchandise that had to be picked up by store staff and placed on the proper shelf. Our experience has been that very small amounts of merchandise are left around in this fashion. Therefore, this type of price comparison is not being done. It is much too inconvenient for the average shopper.

3. The price and the product name are flashed on the visual screen at the checkout too fast to read.

   Our checkers, or terminal operators as they are now called under the new system, are instructed to process the customer's order at the pace they prefer. Anyone who thinks the order is being processed too rapidly can ask the operator to slow down, and this will be done.

INTEGRITY OF RETAILERS

1. It was charged that food stores are being greedy at the expense of a major tool for consumer price information, and that supermarkets are plotting to "dull the pain of constantly rising prices for the consumers" by the elimination of price marking.

   This is a gratuitous and slanderous slur on the motives of responsible members of our community, totally unwarranted by any evidence. Statements such as these are based wholly on assumptions unsupported by factual evidence, and are not worthy of consideration by the Council.

SAVINGS FOR THE CONSUMER

1. Supermarket personnel claim that elimination of item price marking would save the consumer money. Is this double talk?

   Based on figures available to us at this time, elimination of item price marking will increase our in-store productivity. Savings which will result from this productivity, if they are supported by our tests, will be passed along as savings to the consumer. Supermarket operators are always looking for ways to lower their prices beneath that of their competition. Certainly, if we are able to operate more effectively, we will employ the leverage available to us through lower prices to compete more effectively for the consumer's dollar.

PURPOSE OF THE TEST

1. Why is Giant endangering it's good reputation by making an issue of the question of price marking? Certainly, Giant could continue to give the consumer what he wants and at the same time make a good profit.

   We are testing to learn what our customers (as well as consumer advocates) want. So far, our customers like what we are doing.

We are testing because we do not believe it is in anyone's best interest to add unnecessary costs to the products we sell. The greatest contribution food retailers could make to the attainment of more reasonable food prices is to increase our productivity, and thereby reduce our costs. Technology offers us the best way to do this at no additional cost to the consumer. We believe it would be a disservice to our customers not to use all of the tools that are available to us.

MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS

1. Why was the new system installed and the test conducted at Severna Park?

   Severna Park was the next new store scheduled for opening when we were ready to install the new system.

2. Does Giant plan to install computer assisted checkouts in existing (as opposed to new) stores?

   We will install computer assisted checkouts in existing stores when those stores are remodeled. It would be too expensive to discard existing checkout stands and cash registers.

3. Would the computer assisted checkout system allow a small independent chain to be more competitive with the major national chain?

   Yes. A small independent chain which installed computer assisted checkouts before its larger competitors did would have a competitive advantage over the larger chain.

4. How many items are carried in a store the size of Severna Park?

   Approximately 12,000 to 15,000 items.

5. Would a physical inventory still be taken at computer assisted checkout stores?

   Yes. We would still need to know our shrinkage rate.

6. Are financial statements audited by someone other than internal auditors?

   Our financial statements are audited by independent certified public accountants.

7. Is Giant planning to close inner-city stores rather than install computer assisted checkout systems in them?

No. When our inner-city stores are remodeled, we will install computer assisted checkout systems in them.

8. Is there a justification for installing the system and maintaining price marking?

Probably. One of the purposes of the test is to find out.

9. Are there any anti-trust implications in the computer assisted checkout system?

None to our knowledge.

B 1-69

COALITION FOR ELECTION REFORM

c/o Bar Association of the District of Columbia — Young Lawyers Section
1819 H Street, N.W. — Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20006

(202) 223-1483

Members:
Bar Association of the District of Columbia
Young Lawyers Section
Common Cause — D.C.
D.C. Federation of Civic Associations

Coalition Coordinator
Kathleen D. Sheekey
223-1483

August 12, 1975

Councilmember Julius Hobson Sr.
District Building
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Councilmember Hobson:

Thank you for your vote in support of Bill No. 1-69 to provide for postcard voter registration.

We hope that you will continue to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Kathleen D. Sheekey

Kathleen D. Sheekey

Mr. Julius W. Hobson, Sr.
D.C. City Council
District Building
14th & E Sts., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

BOX 1804 · WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013

B 1-26

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF LICENSES AND PERMITS
OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING DIVISION
614 H STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND EMBALMERS

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO THE BOARD

August 18, 1975.

Honorable Arrington Dixon, Chairman,
Committee of Government Operations,
District of Columbia City Council,
District Building, 14th & E Streets, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:-

With reference to Bill I-26, entitled "To establish a District of Columbia Boxing and Wrestling Commission to govern boxing, wrestling and martial arts in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes".

Since the above bill was passed by the City Council and approved by Mayor Washington and the subsequent national news media publicity, our office of "Occupational and Professional Licensing Division", has received over three hundred inquiries from funeral director licensees asking for information and details to secure a license under this Bill. I, too, have received sixty to seventy inquiries, not only from various States but from the news media from other states. It is estimated that we have received approximately sixty percent of our inquiries from licensees in Maryland and Virginia, twenty percent from North Carolina which does not reciprocate with any other state, and twenty percent from other states including California and Alaska.

The licensees in Maryland and Virginia have been told that they are not eligible under the bill as we have a Courtesy Card Agreement with them. However, the District of Columbia Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers are concerned that if this Bill becomes effective in late September or early October the licensing Boards of Maryland and Virginia may cancell our Courtesy Card Agreement which they can do by sending us a thirty day notice to this effect. Without a courtesy card agreement, our licensees would not be able to perform any funeral functions such as removals, burials, cremations or Church services in those States unless we engage a Maryland or Virginia licensee to be with us and also to sign the necessary permits, certificates or authorizations. This would create a great deal of extra expense to our Licensees, which would in turn be passed on to the families. It would be very inconvenient to get this service especially at night.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF LICENSES AND PERMITS
OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING DIVISION
614 H STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001
BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND EMBALMERS

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO THE BOARD

There has been no indication that the Boards of Maryland and Virginia have taken any action as I have described above but if this law in the District does become effective I am sure their licensees will ask their Boards to cancel the agreements.

This bill as I have mentioned regarding our Boards recommendations to the City Council in January and June of this year, would discriminate against District of Columbia licensees by allowing undertakers from other jurisdictions to receive preferential treatment for licensing over and above that afforded any District undertaker by any other jurisdiction.

The Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers have endorsed unanimously the Bill submitted by the Honorable Julius W. Hobson and David Clarke of the City Council to repeal Section 7 (b)(2) of the District of Columbia Boxing and Wrestling Commission Act. Our concern and our request at this time is to ask your Committee to recommend to the City Council to give Councilman Hobson's and Clarke's bill immediate or emergency action and an effective date prior to the effective date of Bill I-26. If we have a lapse of several days, weeks or months between the effective dates of these two Bills, our Licensing Division and our Board, will have a problem to prepare procedures, forms and other necessary items to comply with the provisions of Bill I-26.

As you know there are two proposed recommendations for licensing of Funeral Directors and Embalmers which were submitted to the Mayor and the City Council prior to the enactment of Bill I-26. Both of these recommendations have a section covering full reciprocity and courtesy card agreements which give our licensees the same privileges as those granted by our Board to other jurisdictions. In other words we will reciprocate with other jurisdictions both in our current law and regulations and the proposed legislation now before the City Council and the Mayor.

Any assistance you and your Committee can give the Board and Licensees of the District will be appreciated. If our Board or I can be of further assistance, please call our Board Office or myself. My office number is 333-6680.

Sincerly yours,

H. Don. DeVol

H. Don. DeVol - Chairman
District of Columbia Board of
Funeral Directors and Embalmers.

cc: Julius Hobson
David A. Clarke
Judith Rogers
David Krause
Samuel Fusco

File Lyll dele

Mail Routing Slip

Date: _____

To: Council member Julius Hobson

Comments: _____

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Pat Miner: _____

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Lou Aronica: _____

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Sandy Brown: _____

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Lorraine McCottry: ~~no~~ regrets -
will if someone else might like to attend.

February 23, 1976

Mr. Robert York
1918 35th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Mr. York:

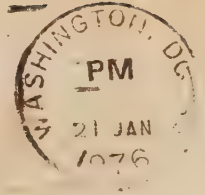
In considering the "No Fault Divorce" bill, I will give every consideration to the welfare of children my full attention.

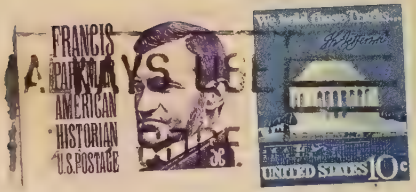
Thank you for writing to me and giving me your views on the effects of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Julius W. Hobson
Councilman at Large

R. York
1918 35th St, NW
Washington, DC 20007





Hon. Julius Hobson
City Council
District Building – 5th Floor
14th and Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20004

1918 35th St. NW
Washington, DC 20007
January 21, 1976

Hon. Julius Hobson
City Council
District Building
Fifth Floor
14th and Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Hobson:

Please give your complete support to the No Fault Divorce Bill including provisions preventing sexual orientation from being considered in child custody and visitation rights in divorce cases.

The gay community considers this bill to be an important step in breaking down stereotypes about gay people and in helping children in divorce cases. Children should be with the better parent and prejudice should not enter into this important decision.

Please support this Bill in its current form.

Sincerely,

Robert York

Council of the District of Columbia
Notice of Public Hearing

Youth

City Hall, 14th and E Streets, N.W. Fifth Floor 638-2223 or Government Code 137-3806

February 18, 1977

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE "YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ACT OF 1977"

Friday, March 18, 1977
10:00 A.M. & 2:00 P.M.
Council Chamber, Room 500, City Hall

Councilman Julius W. Hobson, Chairman of the Education, Recreation and Youth Affairs Committee, announces a public hearing on Bill 2-4, the "Youth Employment Act of 1977". This bill was introduced January 3, 1977 in the City Council by Councilman Hobson.

The "Youth Employment Act of 1977" calls for the establishment of a learner wage for youth under 18 years of age, at 75% of the adult minimum wage. It further provides for a similar differential during the first 26 weeks of employment of young adults, under the age of 22. This graduated wage scale is designed to minimize the disemployment of adults while encouraging youth employment, through providing real financial inducements to employers.

The other major provision of Bill 2-4 would exclude those persons receiving a learners' wage under the age of 18 from unemployment compensation benefits. The resultant savings to employers should increase their inducements under the bill to hire youth in greater numbers.

Copies of the legislation are available by calling the Legislative Services Office of the City Council at 724-8050.

Council procedures allow citizens to comment both orally and in writing before the Committee on Education, Recreation and Youth Affairs. Citizens wishing to comment in writing are invited to address their comments to Mr. Robert Williams, Secretary to the Council, Room 507, City Hall, 14th and E Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004. The official hearing record will close on March 28, 1977.

Citizens wishing to give oral testimony (limited to 5 minutes) may do so by registering with Mrs. Lorraine McCottry at 724-8073 by the close of business on Wednesday March 16, 1977.